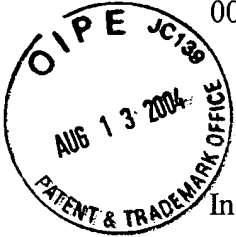


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PATENT APPLICATION



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

HIROKI KISHI, et al.

Application No.: 10/628,452

Filed: July 29, 2003

For: IMAGE PROCESSING
APPARATUS AND METHOD,
COMPUTER PROGRAM, AND
COMPUTER READABLE
STORAGE MEDIUM

Group Art Unit: 3765

August 12, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed below and on the enclosed Form PTO-1449.

U.S. Patent No. 6,285,781
U.S. Publication No. 2003/0231865

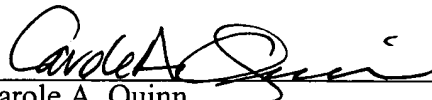
The above-listed documents have a common inventor with, and are commonly assigned with, the subject application.

Inasmuch as this application has not yet received a first Office Action on the merits, it is believed that this Information Disclosure Statement is timely. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3).

Accordingly, the Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialing the appropriate portion of Form PTO-1449.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office by telephone at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,


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